# SELECTIONS

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FROM THE

# VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.

OUDH, CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR

Received up to 29th November, 1879.

## POLITICAL.

THE Oudh Akhbar of the 26th November praises Govern- Circulation, ment for the forbearance which it Afghan politics. has shown towards the Afghans. The military commission, which was established at Kabul to inquire into the circumstances of the massacre of our Embassy, worked very carefully, and was always anxious that no innocent man should be punished. No man was hanged until his guilt was fully proved. The justice and leniency with which we have treated the Afghans will convince them of the good qualities of the British nation. A little reflection will show to them that our friendship will enable them to live in peace and to improve their condition. We assure them that the Government will not interfere with their religious prejudices and customs. The Oudh Akhbar approves of the disarmament of the Afghans, on the ground that they will not be able to give trouble to Government in future

719 copies.

655 INDIA OFFICE 7 JAN 1880

Circulation, 630 copies. The Koh-i-Núr of the 22nd November approves of the proclamation issued by Sir Frederick Roberts, on the 11th November, granting a general amnesty to those Afghans who took up arms against the British troops in the belief that Yakub Khan was imprisoned by the British officers.

Circulation, 170 copies. The Safir-i-Hind, Amritsar, of the 22nd November, argues that the protection of Kabul against Russian aggression is essential for the preservation of the British Indian Empire. If the Government cannot get an able and trustworthy heir to the throne of Kabul, it should annex Afghanistan.

Circulation, 408 copies, The Anjumani Punjab of the 21st November states that sometime ago a meeting was held at Kabul in honor of the late Sir Louis Cavagnari.

The erection of a memory of the late Sir Louis Cavagnari.

nari. The meeting arrived at the conclusion that a monument should be erected at Kabul in his honor. But since then we have heard nothing about the project. We approve of the project, and, in our opinion, the memorial should be built at that very place in the Bala Hissar where the Embassy fell fighting so gloriously. All the Indian Associations and Societies should collect subscriptions for the purpose. Some Afghan sardars of Kabul are sure to contribute towards it.

The Irish.

The British Embassy at Kabul

The Musalmans do not sympathise with them, the Irish express great sympathy with them, and pray for the destruction of the British Indian Empire. The writer quotes some extracts from the Irishman, the Flag of Ireland, and the Weekly News in support of his remarks.

# adi lo aevorina NATIVE STATES.

It appears from the Mitra Vilas of the 24th November The generosity of the that the Maharana of Udaipur has Maharana of Udaipur, bestowed a gift of Rs. 500 upon the proprietor of that paper in order to enable him to get type. The paper is at present printed in lithograph.

Circulation, 200 copies.

The Simla correspondent of the Ashraf-ul-Akhbar of the Circulation, 21st November states that Nawab The Nawab of Maliar Muhammad Ibrahim Ali Khan Bahadur of Maliar Kotla paid a visit to His Excellency the Viceroy at Simla, but that His Excellency did not pay him a return visit. On this the editor remarks that the Nawab is famous for his loyalty. There seems to be no reason why he should not be honored with a return visit by the Viceroy. This honor was always shown to the late Nawab, and has also lately been extended to the Raja of Faridkot, who is imferior in dignity to the Nawab.

90 copies.

### -DEVEL GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Bharat Bandhu of the 14th November (received on the 23rd idem), in regard to the Vac-Compulsory vaccination. cination Bill, remarks that there is no doubt that vaccination is a good preventive of small-pox, but It is not necessary to make it compulsory. Moreover, the author of the Bill appears to have disregarded the native customs in drafting it. Its provisions will affect all children up to the age of fourteen years. But it should be observed that no native, specially no Musalman, will be willing to present a young girl thirteen or fourteen years old before a vaccinator. It is surprising that the Hon'ble Sayyid Ahmad Khan should have overlooked this fact.

Circulation, 175 copies

A correspondent of the Dabiri Hind of the 29th November, referring to the Allahabad The High Court Pleadership Examination. High Court Pleadership Examination, remarks that formerly officers were appointed examiners, and many candidates succeeded in passing the examination every Circulation. 250 copies.

year. Look at the results of the examination in 1873, 1874, and 1875. At one time out of fifteen candidates no less than thirteen were successful. But since the High Court pleaders have begun to be appointed examiners, only one or two candidates are generally successful. This year there were about 200 candidates, of whom only one was successful. At first the High Court notified, through the Government Gazette, that all the candidates had failed, but afterwards it declared one candidate to have passed the examination, which shows that the first notification was published without carefully examining the answers of all the candidates. There are two principal things in connection with the High Court Pleadership Examination, which are deserving of favorable consideration at the hands of the High Court, and which are as follows:—

- (1). That High Court pleaders are generally appointed examiners, who, through selfish motives, are unwilling to pass any candidate.
- (2). That there is always a great delay in the publication of the results of the examination, which is a source of great inconvenience to the candidates. The results of the last examination were not published for seven months. The cause of delay seems to be that the pleaders who are appointed examiners are fully occupied with their own work, and have little time to examine the answers of the candidates.

In commenting upon the above article, the editor remarks that the sons of respectable people have only the legal profession open to them as a means of earning their livelihood, and urges, that civil servants should be appointed examiners instead of pleaders. As long as they are employed at examination work, they may be paid out of the fees realised from the candidates.

A local correspondent of the same paper states that a Acomplaint against the woman, by name Arzu Begam, who treasury Officer, Allaha lives at Allahabad, receives a hereditary half yearly pension of Rs. 4-7-1 from Government. Hitherto she used to get the pension

through the tahsildar of Chail, but Rai Balmokand, the treasury officer, has lately refused to pay the pension through the tahsildar, and asks her to bestow the powers of general attorney upon any one, who will then obtain the pension from the treasury for her. It should be observed that it will cost her about ten or twelve rupees to appoint a general attorney, and she cannot bear such a heavy expense.

A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Azamgarh, states that sometime ago one The alleged misconduct of the District Judge of Ilahi Khan, an old chaprasi of the Azamgath towards a canmunsif's court, Muhammadabad didate for employment. (Azamgarh), died, leaving his wife and a child, without support. As the child is too young and unfit for public service, the widow requested the munsif to appoint one Chaman Khan in her deceased husband's place, on the ground that he had promised to give her one half of his pay for her support. The munsif replied that he would send a rubkar to the judge, and also advised Chaman Khan to apply to him direct. Accordingly Chaman Khan submitted a petition to the judge, but as he received no reply, and as there were many candidates for the appointment, he deemed it advisable to urge his claims personally, and availed himself of the opportunity to do somhen the judge returned home from office. The judge was displeased with his conduct, and ordered his chaprasi to take off the man's clothes and shoes and burn them. The chaprasi replied that the applicant was a poor man, that his clothes were new, and that it would be sufficient to turn him out of the premises. But the judge did not comply with his request, and had the applicant's clothes and shoes burnt to ashes in The widow and the son of the deceased are his presence. starving.

In regard to the above article, the editor remarks that if the complaint against the alleged misconduct of the judge is true, it is undoubtedly a matter of deep regret. True, Chaman Khan was not right in addressing the judge on his way to his house, but the judge should have shown forbearance. The natives are an ignorant and semi-barbarous people, and consequently the European officers should show indulgence towards them. It is to be deeply regretted that we have not practically the freedom even to bring our grievances to the notice of the Government. It will be remembered what great pressure the magistrate of Allahabad brought to bear upon the editor of the Qaisar-ul-Akhbár in Mr. Buck's case.

Circulation, 150 copies. The Pramod Sindhu, Amraoti, of the 24th November.

The annual report on the administration of municipal committees in Berar for 1878-79.

briefly reviews the annual report on the administration of municipal committees in the Haidarabad Assigned Districts for 1878-79. There are five B

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municipal committees in Berar. The total income of the committees during the last year was Rs. 97,195 against Rs. 73,759 in the previous year, and the total expenditure was Rs. 74,487 against Rs. 66,580 in the previous year. Thus there was an increase both in the income and expenditure. It is a matter of great satisfaction that more money was spent in the last year than in 1877 on such useful works as roads, works for the supply of water, &c. The annual cost of the head office establishment of Amraoti and Ellichpur was very large compared with other expenses. The total expenditure of the Amraoti municipal committee was Rs. 34,693, of which the cost of maintaining the head office establishment was Rs. 3,062, i. e., the latter was 81 per cent. of the former. The total expenditure of the Ellichpur municipal committee was Rs. 13,082, of which that of the head office establishment alone amounted The heavy cost of the head to Rs. 1,151, ie., to 83 per cent. office establishment of the Ellichpur municipal committee is justifiable, on the ground that the population and area under the jurisdiction of that committee are comparatively large. But no such explanation can be urged in defence of the large head office establishment of the Amraoti municipal committee. The committee has a secretary whose pay is about He is no doubt an able man, and renders great Rs. 200.

assistance to the committee, specially in engineering work. But the committee does not require the services of such a highly paid secretary. It should appoint a secretary on smaller pay, or have the work done by the assistant commissioner, as suggested by the commissioner in the annual report on municipal administration for 1877-78. It can have all the engineering work done by the local fund engineer or the executive engineer. The writer then proceeds to complain that there are ten European members in the municipal committee of Amritsar, who form probably the total European population of the municipality, while there are only seven native members. In every other municipal committee the native element preponderates. It should be always remembered that municipal committees have been established by Government to teach the art of self Government to the natives.

The Mirat-ul-Hind for November states that in accordance with the provisions of the new License The new Trades License Bill, Bill, all traders whose income does not exceed Rs. 250 will be exempt from the payment of the tax, the operations of the Act will be extended to the official and professional classes, and the tax will be levied at the rate of one and a half instead of two per cent. Sir John Strachey, the Financial Minister, thinks that a native with a monthly income of Rs. 10 can live more comfortably than a European with four times that income, and cannot be considered poor, but he is mistaken. His remark may hold good in some degree in time of plenty, when grain sells at one maund the rupee, but not in time of scarcity. Unfortunately since he has arrived in India, famine prevails in the country. We hope that famine will vanish on his return to England next year. The prevalence of such mischievous thoughts, as that entertained by Sir John Strachey, among European officers, is very prejudicial to the interests of the natives, and prevents the Government from introducing the excellent system of permanent settlement of revenue in every province. It is

Circulation, 330 copies.

well known that the traders are suffering severely from the heavy assessment of the license tax, but still Sir John Strachey declares that the working of the tax is not beset with any difficulty. The fact of the matter is that the natives consider every evil that befalls them inevitable, and bear it patiently. Now that the operations of the License Act will be extended to higher officers, the Anglo-Indian papers will be generally full of complaints against its working in future. The *Pioneer*, which was hitherto accustomed to expatiate on its benefits, has already raised a wild clamour against it.

Circulation, 175 copies.

The Bharat Bandhu of the 22nd November refers to the changes which Sir John Strachey has The same subject. proposed to make in the Trades License Act, and remarks that he is anxious to give relief to small traders. But they will not be able to avail themselves of it until the over zealous tahsildars and other subordinate officers, who assess the tax, sympathise with them. Hitherto the tax was levied on net profits, but in future it will be levied on gross incomes. Hitherto no person had to pay more than Rs. 500, but in future no such limit will exist. Sir John Strachey states that the exemption of traders with small incomes from the tax will involve a loss of about two and a half lakhs of rupees (sic), which will be made good by the extension of the tax to the richer official and professional classes. To our thinking the additional income derived from the extension will not only recoup the loss but replenish the empty coffers of the Government. The license tax was introduced with the express object of providing a special fund for the prevention and relief of famine. But it is difficult to realise why the Government has deemed it necessary to extend its operations further. Does the Government foresee Direct taxation is always unpopular. another famine? Although the natives are ready to sacrifice their lives and property on behalf of Her Majesty, they are displeased with the levy of the license tax. They already pay many taxes, such as the court-fee, the salt tax, the land revenue, &c., and it is not wise to increase the burden of taxation any further.

The Arya Mitra of the 21st November gives a brief ac-The new Trades License count, as communicated by the Press Commissioner to the public press, of the Bill introduced by Sir John Strachey in the Legislative Council for amending the existing Trades License Acts, and remarks that it is surprising that Sir John Strachey has changed his opinion. He was formerly of opinion that a native whose annual income amounts to Rs. 100 is not a poor man. now he states that the tax descends too low, and affects many traders whose taxation is neither expedient nor financially profitable. We congratulate traders on their good fortune, but the official classes have now come under the influence of their evil star. The Indian press strongly protested against making persons, whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 200, liable to the payment of the tax, but its protest was unheeded at the time. However, better late than never. are very thankful to Sir John Strachey for the indulgence which he has shown to poor traders. But there is one thing in Sir John Strachey's speech which we do not quite understand. He says that the loss of twenty-four lakhs of rupees, which the increase of the minimum limit of taxable income from Rs. 200 to Rs. 250 will involve, will be recouped by the extension of taxation to the official classes. But if the income derived from the proposed extension exceeds twenty-four lakhs of rupees, how will the surplus be disposed of? Will it be returned to the official classes or devoted to increasing the limit from Rs. 250 in the case of traders? In our opinion it should be devoted A direct tax presses more severely upon to the latter purpose. traders, whose income is not fixed, than upon salaried persons.

The Rahbar-i-Hind of the 24th November approves of the proposed exemption of traders, whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 250, from the payment of the license tax, and of the extension of the tax to the richer official classes.

Circulation, 600 copies.

Circulation, 475 copies.

Circulation, 150 copies. The Mashir-i-Qaisar, Lucknow, of the 27th November, complains that the license tax presses hard upon poor traders. There is no doubt that great financial pressure has compelled the Government to levy the tax, but the condition of traders is generally so bad that they have to sell their personal chattels in order to pay the tax. The tax is at present a source of great anxiety to the traders at Lucknow. Many appeals are filed at the deputy commissioner's court every day against the assessments. The people expected that the tax would be more leniently assessed this time than it was last year, but they have been disappointed.

A correspondent of the same paper urges that if the Government is anxious to improve the condition of agricultural classes, it should introduce permanent settlement in every province in India. The condition of the landlords and tenants in Bengal, where permanent settlement is in vogue, is much better than in any other province. The Emperor Akbar made a permanent settlement of revenue. The Maharaja of Balrampur, Oudh, has introduced that system in some parts of his territories. Sir William Muir, the late Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces, was an advocate of the system in question.

Circulation, 320 copies.

The Oudh Punch of the 25th November states that the The advertisement of a Government has prohibited the publication.

Cation of advertisements of lotteries in newspapers, but that the prohibition is not strictly enforced. Last year a civilised native (the Hon'ble Sayyid Ahmad Khan) held a lottery, and advertised it through the Aligarh Institute Gazette. The advertisement of a lottery,\* which is to be held by a merchant of Lucknow, is at present published in the Oudh Akhbar. The Government sanctioned the Aligarh lot-

<sup>\*</sup> The Oudh Akhbár has for sometime past been publishing the advertisement of a lottery, entitled—The Grand Christmas Distribution of Prizes, which will be held by Messrs. Murray and Co., Lucknow. It is stated in the advertisement that the lottery is to be held with the special permission of the local Government.

tery because it was held for a charitable purpose. But if even merchants can obtain permission to hold lotteries, and newspapers publish advertisements, the prohibition of the publication of such advertisements is practically a dead letter.

A correspondent of the Koh-i-Núr of the 22nd Novem-The Muhammadan Fami. ber, in regard to the Muhammadan ly Endowment Bill. Family Endowment Bill, which the Hon'ble Sayyid Ahmad Khan wishes to lay before the Legislative Council, remarks that the Bill is calculated to save the estates of Musalmans from ruin. But it should be observed that any person who is anxious to place his estates under the management of the Government in accordance with the provisions of the Bill, assumes that his descendants will be spendthrifts. But such an assumption is obviously preposterous. There must be few persons who will like to make over their estates to others for ever. In these circumstances it would be better if the Bill prescribed some conditions on which the heirs could obtain possession of endowed property.

A correspondent of the Safir-i-Hind, Amritsar, of the 22nd November, referring to the Ver-The Government of India and the Indian Press. nacular Press Act and the establishment of the Press Commissionership, remarks that these two measures have stained the fair fame of Lord Lytton's administration, and are good signs of imperialism, which is in favor with the present Government. Formerly the vernacular newspapers were accustomed to criticise the acts and proceedings of Government officers, and, therefore, the latter were afraid to commit any illegal act. But since the Press Act has been passed, the vernacular newspapers refrain from criticising the acts of officers. Moreover, the Government was acquainted with the thoughts and feelings of the people by means of the vernacular press, but this advantage has now been lost. The Anglo-Indian newspapers were jubilant over the passing of the Vernacular Press Act, but they

Circulation, 630 copies.

are much dissatisfied with the check which the Press Commissioner has begun to exercise over them. His duty consists in seeing that the provisions of the Press Act are strictly observed by the vernacular newspapers, and in supplying official news to the Indian press. His office costs the Government Rs. 40,000 a year. The question is what good has accrued from the creation of this appointment. The vernacular papers still depend upon Anglo-Indian newspapers for news as they did formerly. The Press Commissioner supplies news to Anglo-Indian newspapers, but if any of them severely criticises the acts and measures of the Government, he threatens to discontinue supplying news, as was lately done in the case of the Calcutta Statesman. It should be also observed that the official news supplied by the Press Commissioner is not readily believed by the public. Moreover, the news supplied by him is generally of such a kind that the public has no interest in it, while important political news often appears in some Anglo-Indian newspapers one or two days before it is supplied by him to the press. In these circumstances it is surprising that the Government should maintain the office of the Press Commissioner, which costs Rs. 40,000 a year, at this time of great financial pressure.

### POST-OFFICE AND RAILWAY.

Circulation, 150 copies. The Pramod Sindhu of the 24th November complains that The quarter-anna post the postal authorities charge an additional half anna on a post card if the sender's name together with that of the addressee is written on the front side, and urges that this should not be done.

The Jaipur Gazette of the 22nd November refers to the The Rajputana State present visit of Lord Lytton to Raj-Railway.

Putana, and urges that his lordship should avail himself of the occasion to consider the question of reconstructing the Rajputana State Railway on the broad gauge. The narrow gauge railway is not able to cope with the heavy traffic on the line.

A correspondent of the Rahbar-i-Hind of the 24th Novem-

Circulation, 475 copies.

The quarter-anna post cards cannot be obtained in the interior of districts in the Panjab.

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ber states that, in accordance with the orders of the financial comm issioner of the Panjab, every tahsil treasury

in that province should keep a sufficient quantity of postage stamps, envelopes, &c., for sale, but that it is to be regretted that the quarter-anna post cards cannot be obtained at some tahsil treasuries in the interior of districts, which is a source of great inconvenience and loss to the people.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

The Kashi Patrika of the 15th November (received on the The rumour about the 24th idem) publishes a letter, combirth of a great Hindu king. municated by Vishweshwar Dayal, the manager of the Vishwa Nath Temple at Benares. The manager contradicts the rumour which was lately spread by some Marathi papers of Central India about the descent of a letter, written in golden letters, from Indra's heaven into the temple, predicting the birth of a great Hindu king (see page 638 of the Selections for the week ending the 14th August, 1879.)

Circulation, 440 copies.

# LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.	DATE OF PAPER.	DATE OF RE- CEIPT.	CIRCULATION.
					1879.	1879.	
1 Aftab-i-Panjab	Lahore Urdu		Bi-weekly	Divan Buta Singh,	Novr. 21st & 24th	Buta Singh, Novr. 21st & 24th Novr. 24th & 26th	650 copies.
2 Afzal-ul-Akhbar	Muzaffar-	Ditto	Weekly	Muhammad	" 24th	" 26th	189 "
3 Agra Akhbár	Agra Lahore	Ditto	Ditto Ditto	Khwaja Usaf Ali, Mokand Ram	" 21st	, 24th	1,245 copies (in-
6 Aligarh Institute Ga- Aligarh zette.	Lucknow, Aligarh	Ditto Urdu- E n g	Ditto Ditto Paran Urdu- E n g - Bi-weekly Sheikh lish.	Paran Chand Sheikh Alim-ulla	" 22nd & 25th	" 26th " " 24th & 27th respectively.	copies taken by Govt.). 125 copies. 297 copies (including 68
7 Anjuman-i-Hind 8 Anjuman-i-Panyáb	Lucknow,	Urdu Ditto	Weekly	Chandan Lal	22nd 21st	, 26th 25th	copies taken by Govt.). 130 copies. 408 copies (including 200
9 Anwar-ul-Akhbar 10 Arya Mittra 11 Ashraf-ul-Akhbar	Lucknow, Benares Delhi	Ditto Hindi Urdu	Ditto Ditto Tri-monthly,	Ditto Fateh Muhammad, Ditto Babu Bhut Nath Tri-monthly, Mirza Khan	24th 21st	28th 23rd	ic is
2 Berar Mitr 3 Berar Samachar	Ellichpur, Marathi	12	Weekly	Eknath Sakha Ram, Khande Rao Balaji,	" 25th	28th	250

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List of papers examined—(concluded).

No.	NAME.	LOGALITY.	LANGUAGE.	GE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.		DATE OF PAPER.		ATE	DATE OF RECEIPT.	IPŢ.	CIRC	CIRCULATION.
1								1879.			1879.			
36	Nairang Mazámín Muttra Najmul Akhbár Meerut		Urdu Ditto	::	Bi-monthly,	Meva Ram Muhammad Hayat,	Novr	Novr. 15th 14th to 20th		Novr.	27th 23rd to 29th	esth.	165	copies.
37	Núr-i-Afshán	Ludhiana,	Ditto	:	Weekly	Rev. A. P. Kelso	2	27th	:	2	29th	; :	430	
60 69 00 00	Nusrat-ul-Ahhbár Oudh Akhbár	Delhi Lucknow,	Ditto Ditto	::	Tri-monthly, Nusrat Daily Shee Pr	y, Nusrat Ali Sheo Prasad		21st 24th to 29th	: <del>4</del>		24th to 29th respectively.	9th ely.	150 719 copie cluding	719 copies (including 90 copies taken
04.4	Oudh Punch	Ditto	Ditto Ditto	: :	Weekly Ditto	Sajjad Husain		25th 22nd	::	2 2	<b>26th</b> 25th	i :	by G 320 350	
42	Panjab Funch	Ditto	Ditto	:	Ditto	Fateh-ud-din	2	24th	:		27th	:	225	
84	Patiala Akkbár Pramod Sindhú	Patiala Ditto Umraoti Marathi	Ditto Marathi	: :	Ditto	Eshvant Gobind Sa-	2 2	<b>a</b> a	1:	22	29th 26th	::	250	2 2
45		Wales' Meerut	Urdu	:	Ditto	Rai Ganeshi Lal	:	20th	-	3	23rd	:	82	
46	Qaisar-ul-Ahhbár Rafáh-i-Am	Sialkot	Ditto Ditto	: :	Ditto Bi-monthly,	Siraj-ud-din Ahmad Divan Chand		23rd 26th	1:	222	25th 29th		150	
48	Rahbar-i-Hind Rahnomá-i-Hind	Lahore Delhi	Ditto	11	Weekly	Abdul Ghafur	::	24th 20th		22.24	25th 24th	4	475	-

50 Rohilkhand Akhbar Moradabad 51 Sadiq-ul-Akhbar Bhawalpur	Moradabad	Ditto	::	Ditto	Sayyid Faizul	. " 22nd " 24th	<u> </u>		26th 28th	11	150	
52 Saftr-i-Hind 53 Shola-i-Túr	Amritsar,	Ditto	::	Ditto	Revd. Rajab Ali Haidar Ali	, 22nd	::		24th 26th	11	170	
Sohail Hind Tahzib-ul Akhlag	Meerut Aligarh	Ditto	i .:	Monthly Sheikh	Prasad Alim-ulla	For the month of	onth of		2.2	::	80	
56 Ordu Akhbar	Akola Marathi	Marathi	:	Weekly	Kishan Chand	Novr. 22nd	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	2	2		200	R

ALLAHABAD,
The 4th December, 1879.

Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of Upper India.

PRINGED AT THE N.-W. P. AND OUDH GOVERNMENT PRESS, ALLAHABAD.

The production of the second Property and the second